

Kelly M. Tu, Ph.D.

Work Address

203 Spidle Hall
Auburn University
Auburn, AL 36849
kmt0009@auburn.edu

Education

2013	Ph.D.	Human Development and Family Studies	Auburn University
2009	M.S.	Human Development and Family Studies	Auburn University
2007	B.A.	Psychology	Randolph-Macon College

Postdoctoral Training

2013 – Present	Postdoctoral Fellow , Auburn University
Mentor	Mona El-Sheikh, Ph.D., Human Development and Family Studies Child Sleep, Health, and Development Laboratory
Studies	Family Aggression and Trajectories of Adolescent Adaptation: Bioregulatory effects; NICHD Grant No. R01-HD046795 Sleep and Child Developmental Outcomes: Physiological and Contextual Influences; NIH Grant No. R01-HL093246

Postdoctoral Responsibilities

Manage and analyze data to inform study objectives
Provide training for physiology assessments
Mentor undergraduate and graduate students
Write and present findings in peer-reviewed journal and national conference

Honors and Awards

Outstanding Doctoral Student Award (One of top 10 doctoral students), Auburn University, 2010
Phi Beta Kappa, Randolph-Macon College, 2007
Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship, Randolph-Macon College, 2004, 2005
Presidential Honors Scholarship, Randolph-Macon College, 2003-2007

Professional Experience

2008 – 2013 **Project Manager**, Child and Adolescent Relationships Laboratory,
Auburn University

Served as project manager for National Institutes of Health (NIH) and National Science Foundation (NSF) funded studies on children's responses to social stress, parental involvement in children's peer relationships, and psychosocial adjustment across childhood and adolescence.

Responsibilities included: assisting in the design and implementation of studies examining children's responses to ongoing peer stress and parent-child discussion about handling an ongoing peer stress situation; training and supervising students on study protocols and data coding; interviewing families; publishing peer review manuscripts and presenting research at professional conferences

2009 **Instructor**, Human Development and Family Studies, Auburn University

Instructor for an undergraduate course, Child Development. Course focused on themes and theories of child development from birth to adolescence, as well as methods used in the study of child development. Topics covered included: physical, language, cognitive, social, and emotional development, parent-child relationships, and peer relationships. Prepared lectures, class discussions, writing assignments, exams.

2009 **Teaching Assistant**, Human Development and Family Studies,
Auburn University

Assisted in two sections of an undergraduate course, Child Development. Delivered lectures (topics included children's cognitive development and development in a family context using a bioecological framework), advised students, administered exams, and graded course material.

2009 **Research Assistant**, Human Development and Family Studies,
Auburn University

Assisted in data entry and data cleaning for a program implemented in high schools about healthy relationships.

2007 **Teaching Assistant**, Human Development and Family Studies,
Auburn University

Assisted in a very large introductory undergraduate course, Marriage and Family. Delivered lectures (topics included parenting and cohabitation), advised students, administered exams, and graded course material.

Professional Experience (continued)

2006 – 2007 **Research Assistant**, Department of Psychology, Randolph-Macon College

Assisted in the design and implementation of a study examining the link between chronic stress and exercise using animal models. Conducted histology protocols to examine whether exercise protected against neurodegeneration in the context of chronic stress.

Trained and assisted students in behavioral neuroscience research using animal models (e.g., data collection, data analysis).

Additional Professional Experience

2011 **College Teaching Training**, Auburn University

Completed a course on effective college teaching offered through the Biggio Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching

2007 – 2013 **Guest Instructor**, Human Development and Family Studies, Auburn University

Served as a guest instructor on topics related to parenting programs targeting youth social development, parent-child interactions, and children's peer relationships in undergraduate courses

Served as a guest instructor in advanced graduate research methods courses

2006 **Internship**, Children's Hospital, *Richmond, Virginia*

Worked with a behavioral psychologist in the hospital's Feeding Program, which was designed to help children with behavioral and oral motor problems that interfere with their feeding and growth

Ad-Hoc Reviewer

Developmental Psychology

Child Development

Health Psychology

Professional Memberships

Society for Research in Child Development

Society for Research on Adolescence

Specialized Training

Statistical Analyses

Multiple regression analysis, mediation, and moderation analyses
Covariance structure analysis (e.g., structural equation modeling)
Longitudinal data analysis and growth curve modeling
Multilevel modeling

Physiological Assessments

Collection and analysis of children's biological responses, including heart rate, vagal regulation, respiratory sinus arrhythmia, cardiac pre-ejection period, and skin conductance level, using MindWare Technologies, Inc. hardware and software

Professional Service

2010 – 2011 **Mentor**, Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS) Mentorship Program
Auburn University

2009 – 2010 **Board Member**, HDFS Graduate Student Organization
Auburn University

Grant

Tu, K. M. (Erath, S. A., Sponsor; Pettit, G. S., Co-Sponsor). *Person x environment: Parenting, preadolescent psychophysiology, and peer stress*. Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award for Individual Predoctoral Fellowships, National Institutes of Health, 2011-2013 (\$52,530).

Publications

Gregson, K.D., **Tu, K.M.**, & Erath, S.A. (in press). Sweating under pressure: Skin conductance level reactivity moderates the association between peer victimization and externalizing behavior. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*.

Tu, K.M., & Erath, S.A. (2013). Social discomfort in preadolescence: Predictors of discrepancies between preadolescents and their parents and teachers. *Child Psychiatry and Human Development*, 44, 201-216.

Erath, S.A., **Tu, K.M.**, & El-Sheikh, M. (2012). Socially anxious and peer victimized preadolescents: "Doubly primed" for distress? *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology*, 40, 837-848.

Publications (continued)

- Tu, K.M.**, Erath, S.A., & Flanagan, K.S. (2012). Can socially adept friends protect peer-victimized early adolescents against poorer academic performance? *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, 33*, 24-30.
- Erath, S.A., & **Tu, K.M.** (2011). The parenting context of children's sleep. In M. El-Sheikh (Ed.), *Sleep and development: Familial and socio-cultural considerations* (pp. 29-48). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Erath, S.A., Flanagan, K.S., Bierman, K.L., & **Tu, K.M.** (2010). Close friendships moderate psychosocial maladjustment in socially anxious early adolescents. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, 31*, 15-36.
- Hawley, D.F., Bardi, M., Everette, A.M., Higgins, T.J., **Tu, K.M.**, Kinsely, C.H., & Lambert, K.G. (2010). Neurobiological constituents of active, passive, and variable coping strategies in rats: Integration of regional brain neuropeptide Y levels and cardiovascular responses. *Stress, 13*, 172-183.
- Lambert, K.G., **Tu, K.**, Everette, A., Love, G., McNamara, I., Bardi, M., & Kinsley, C.H. (2007). Explorations of coping strategies, learned persistence, and resilience in Long Evans rats: Innate vs. acquired characteristics (pp. 319-324). In: *Resilience in Children*, New York City: New York Academy of Sciences.

Manuscripts Submitted for Publication

- Erath, S.A., & **Tu, K.M.** (provisional acceptance). Peer stress in preadolescence: Linking physiological and coping responses with social competence.
- Erath, S.A., **Tu, K.M.**, Buckhalt, J.A., & El-Sheikh, M. (under review). Sleep disruptions and peer victimization moderate the association between intelligence and academic achievement.
- Erath, S.A., Bub, K.L., & **Tu, K.M.** (under review). Responses to peer stress predict academic performance across the transition to middle school.

Manuscripts in Preparation

- Tu, K.M.**, Erath, S.A., Pettit, G.S., & El-Sheikh, M. (in preparation). Predicting positive peer adjustment: Interactions between parenting and early adolescent physiology.
- Erath, S.A., **Tu, K.M.**, & El-Sheikh (in preparation). Marital conflict and disengaged coping predicting internalizing and externalizing problems.

Presentations

- Tu, K.M.**, Erath, S.A., & Pettit, G.S. (2013). *Parental social coaching and preadolescent physiological responses in the context of peer stress*. Paper presented as part of the symposium, "Parenting in the context of peer stress" (S.A. Erath, Chair) at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle, WA.
- Erath, S.A. & **Tu, K.M.** (2013). *Peer stress in preadolescence: Psychophysiological and coping responses*. Paper presented as part of the symposium, "Biological stress response system and child social competence and psychopathology symptoms: Psychological and environmental moderators" (B.J. Hinnant, Chair) at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle, WA.
- Gregson, K.D., **Tu, K.M.**, & Erath, S.A. (2013). *Sweating under pressure: Electrodermal reactivity moderates the association between peer victimization and externalizing behavior*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle, WA.
- Tu, K.M.**, & Erath, S.A. (2012). *Social discomfort in preadolescence: Predictors of discrepancies between preadolescents and their parents and teachers*. Paper presented as part of the symposium, "Parents just don't understand? Examining parents' insight into adolescents' social experiences" (J.G. Parker, Chair), at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Vancouver, Canada.
- Erath, S. A., **Tu, K. M.**, Bub, K. L., & El-Sheikh, M. (2011). *Socially anxious and peer-victimized preadolescents: "Doubly primed" for distress?* Paper presented as part of the symposium, "Social anxiety and emotional adjustment from middle childhood to preadolescence: from developmental processes to clinical outcomes" (H. Gazelle, Chair), at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Montreal, Canada.
- Tu, K.M.**, Birmingham, R.S., Jones, A., & Erath, S.A. (2011). *Parents' and preadolescents' coping in social contexts predicts preadolescents' social adjustment*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Montreal, Canada.
- Tu, K.M.**, Erath, S., & Flanagan, K. (2010). *Peer victimization and academic competence in early adolescence: Friends' social adjustment as a moderator*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Philadelphia, PA.
- Tu, K.M.**, Erath, S.A., Flanagan, K., & Bierman, K. (2009). *Other-sex friendships in early adolescence: Are they linked with social competence?* Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, CO.

Presentations (continued)

Tu, K.M., Everette, A., Bardi, M., Kinsley, C., & Lambert, K.G. (2006). *An investigation of coping profiles and cognitive recovery in Long-Evans rats exposed to the activity-stress paradigm*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Atlanta, GA.

Tu, K.M., Everette, A., Love, G., McNamara, I., Banks, M., Kinsley C., & Lambert, K.G. (2005). *Coping strategies in Long-Evans rats: Innate and acquired characteristics*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Behavioral Neuroscience Society, Santa Fe, NM.

Research Interests

- Family stress, parenting, and youth development
- Biological and behavioral responses to stress
- Peer relationships
- Risk and resilience

Teaching Interests

- Child Development
- Adolescent Development
- Family Relations
- Parenting
- Stress and Development